

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 AF-10 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

AID-20 SPM-01 IGA-02 NIC-01 COME-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01

SS-14 USIA-12 HEW-08 RSR-01 /179 W

----- 013245

R 091741 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4932

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: AORG, UN, SPOP

SUBJ: PRC PARTICIPATION IN WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE
PREPARATIONS

REF: USUN 0758

1. FOR SEVERAL REASONS, EMBASSY IS SOMEWHAT DUBIOUS ABOUT SUGGESTION IN REFTEL THAT AMBASSADOR MCBRIDE FOLLOW UP CARRILLO- FLORES' LETTER TO ECHEVERRIA RECOMMENDING THAT HE URGE THE PRC TO BECOME INVOLVED IN THE WPC.

2. IN FIRST PLACE, QUESTION OF POPULATION CONTROL IS STILL RATHER SENSITIVE SUBJECT HERE DESPITE GOM' S ADOPTION OF PROGRAM OF " RESPONSIBLE PARENTHOOD."

3. SECONDLY, WHILE ECHEVERRIA AND CARRILLO- FLORES SERVED IN THE SAME CABINET UNDER PRESIDENT DIAZ ORDAZ, WE ARE NOT SURE THAT THEIR RELATIONSHIPS ARE PARTICULARLY CLOSE. THE ECHEVERRIA ADMINISTRATION HAS TENDED TO LOOK WITH SOME DISDAIN ON FIGURES FROM PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATIONS, AND WE DO KNOW THAT CARRILLO- FLORES' SUCCESSOR HAS A
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CONSIDERABLE INFERIORITY COMPLEX CONCERNING HIS PREDECESSOR' S
WORLDWIDE REPUTATION FOR STATESMANSHIP. CARRILLO- FLORES
IS ALSO REGARDED AS HAVING BEEN TOO FRIENDLY TOWARD THE
U. S. AND THEREFORE SOMEWHAT SUSPECT TO THE NATIONALISTIC
ECHEVERRIA ADMINISTRATION.

4. WE THEREFORE DO NOT BELIEVE IT WOULD BE TO THE
ADVANTAGE OF EITHER THE USG OR CARRILLO- FLORES TO GIVE
ANY INDICATION TO THE GOM THAT WE WERE COLLABORATING ON
A SUGGESTION IN THIS FIELD. EVEN IF CARRILLO- FLORES'
NAME WERE NOT MENTIONED IN SUCH AN APPROACH, ECHEVERRIA
WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY AND INSTANTLY REALIZE AMBASSADOR MCBRIDE
WAS MAKING THE SAME PROPOSAL AS THE FORMER FOREIGN
SECRETARY.

5. ON THE OTHER HAND, IT IS QUITE LIKELY THAT THE QUESTION
OF POPULATION CONTROL WILL ARISE DURING ECHEVERRIA' S VISIT
TO CHINA BECAUSE OF MEXICAN INTEREST IN THE CHINESE
EXPERIENCE IN THIS FIELD. WHILE WE DOUBT THAT AMBASSADOR
MCBRIDE WILL BE ABLE TO SEE PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA BEFORE
HIS DEPARTURE, IF THIS DOES BECOME POSSIBLE, AN
OPENING MAY ARISE DURING THE CONVERSATION TO BRING UP
THE PROBLEM OF POPULATION EXPLOSION , CHINA' S AND MEXICO' S
EXPERIENCE IN CONTROLLING IT, AND IN TURN CHINESE AND
MEXICAN ATTITUDES TOWARDS THE WPC. USUN' S SUGGESTION
WILL BE KEPT IN MIND, BUT WE WOULD PREFER TO BE ABLE
TO USE OUR OWN DISCRETION DEPENDING ON HOW A CONVERSATION
WITH ECHEVERRIA GOES, IF IN FACT IT DOES TAKE PLACE.
DEAN

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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